

Introduced by Senator McGuire

February 17, 2016

An act to amend Section 35615 of the Public Resources Code, relating to ocean resources.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1082, as introduced, McGuire. Ocean Protection Council: functions and duties.

Existing law, the California Ocean Protection Act, establishes the California Ocean Protection Council and prescribes the membership and functions and duties of the council with regard to the protection, conservation, and restoration of coastal waters and ocean resources.

This bill would make various nonsubstantive changes in provisions prescribing the functions and duties of the council.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 35615 of the Public Resources Code is
- 2 amended to read:
- 3 35615. The council shall do all of the following:
- 4 (a) (1) Coordinate *the* activities of state agencies that are related
- 5 to the protection and conservation of coastal waters and ocean
- 6 ecosystems to improve the effectiveness of state efforts to protect
- 7 ocean resources within existing fiscal limitations, consistent with
- 8 Sections 35510 and 35515.

1 (2) Establish policies to coordinate the collection, evaluation,
2 and sharing of scientific data related to coastal and ocean resources
3 among agencies.

4 (3) (A) Establish a science advisory team of distinguished
5 scientists to assist the council in meeting the purposes of this
6 division. At the request of the council, the science advisory team
7 may convene to identify, develop, and prioritize subjects and
8 questions for research or investigation, and review and evaluate
9 results of research or investigations to provide information for the
10 council's activities.

11 (B) The science advisory team shall include scientists from a
12 range of disciplines that are a part of the council's purview.

13 (C) The science advisory team shall provide an independent
14 and timely analysis of reports and studies, identifying areas of
15 scientific consensus or uncertainty, using the best available science
16 by drawing on state, national, and international experts.

17 (D) Scientists selected as members of the science advisory team
18 shall serve without compensation, except for reimbursement of
19 expenses and subject to the terms of an existing contract with the
20 state.

21 (4) Contract with the California Ocean Science Trust and other
22 nonprofit organizations, ocean science institutes, academic
23 institutions, or others that have experience in conducting the
24 scientific and educational tasks that are required by the council.

25 (5) Transmit the results of research and investigations to state
26 agencies to provide information for policy decisions.

27 (6) Identify and recommend to the Legislature changes in law
28 *that are* needed to achieve the goals of this section.

29 (b) (1) Identify changes in federal law and policy necessary to
30 achieve the goals of this division and to improve protection,
31 conservation, and restoration of ocean ecosystems in federal and
32 state waters off the state's coast.

33 (2) Recommend to the Governor and the Legislature actions the
34 state should take to encourage those changes in federal law and
35 policy.